

Campus Benefactors:
Victor C. Alderson
pg. 8

THE OREDIGGER
The Student Voice of the Colorado School of Mines
Check out the new Oredigger website!
www.oredigger.net

ASCE bridge building
competition
pg. 7

I-Club closes, bids final farewell to students

Alec Westerman
Staff Writer

In response to the closing of the I-Club, Tom Warson lamented, "It's too bad to see it all go," adding in contrast, "[Though] I'm almost jealous, but also excited for the next group of kids coming in... The school is in a transition phase."

For years, the I-Club, which is located in the Student Center, had served Mines students and faculty in a number of capacities. These included having a food court, being the Friday Afternoon Club host, and a relaxing hang-out spot for students. On March 4, this all came to an end.

Due to the upcoming construction of a new residence hall, the Minority Engineering Program House is being displaced. As such, their offices are being moved into the space formerly occupied by the I-Club. According to Dan Fox, "This change is an interim step in the

ongoing renovation and construction planned for the Student Center over the next several years. These plans will ultimately increase Student Center floor space and result in expanded food server operations and other benefits."

On March 4, Aramark threw a closing party for the I-Club. They provided free soft drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and coupons for any student in attendance. The party was full of students expressing their opinions on the I-Club's closing.

Jeffrey Tattershall, a student at Mines, expressed his fear that, "It's going to make the food court hectic." Other students echoed his opinions. "No! Close the food court instead," exclaimed one unnamed student. "I'm going to miss the Mexican Burgers," added another student, Dan Shields.

Although most students were upset at the I-Club's closing due to the change in food-options, others will miss the I-Club's "atmosphere." Chelsey Parten explained this view.

"I think it's unfortunate that FAC won't be held here anymore. It ruins the atmosphere." Desiree Tan added, "It's a tragedy that it's going away and I will miss it greatly."

Some students had a decidedly different look on the closing of the I-Club. "I'm really excited," said Maximillian Martinez. As a member of MEP, he is happy that the club's office space will still exist. He explained how it would not only be good for MEP to be centrally located, but that it would be more convenient for students. MEP focuses on academic excellence through facilitating studying and mentoring and a central location will help them in that regard.

Dan Fox ad-

ressed the hole left by the absence of the I-Club in student diets saying, "It is our intention to incorporate as many of the current menu items from the I-Club into the Food Court operation as possible. The entire breakfast menu including Java City Coffee will move over to the Food

Court. Many of the most popular sandwiches and burgers as well as the daily lunch special will also migrate over to the Food Court. The new Food Court hours will be 7:15 AM to 7:00 PM Monday to Thursday. [On] Friday the Food Court will be open 7:15 AM to 2:00 PM."

IAN LITTMAN / OREDIGGER



Students gather in the I-club for free soda, ours d'oeuvres and good-byes.

Former Governor Richard Lamm visits CSM

A tale of two Colorados: striking a balance between the infinite and the finite

Tim Weilert
Content Manager

Three-term governor Richard Lamm served the state of Colorado from 1975 to 1987, currently teaches at DU, and visited CSM on March 2 to discuss and dissect current policy relating to economy, energy, and the environment. Lamm began with a short speech on the

issues, and then proceeded to lead an open discussion for the majority of the presentation.

Speaking in "parables," Lamm began by telling a humorous anecdote about Foreign Service officer in Peru who fell victim to confusion. "We live in confusing times," said Lamm. "How do we keep our bearings as a society in an avalanche of change? We see more change in a year than we used to see in a de-

cade." Lamm proceeded to quantify this point by quoting statistics relating to the job market before moving on to his second parable.

The second parable was a story about a diamond. While at a party Lamm met a woman wearing a large stone. When he asked about the rock, the woman told Lamm that it was the cursed "Coffman Diamond." "What's the curse?" asked Lamm. "Dr. Coffman," replied the woman.

Moving toward the issue of growth, Lamm asked, "Is growth, both economic and population, a diamond or a curse? There are two important and opposing lessons we can learn from the Rocky Mountain west: the triumph of the infinite and living with the finite." The culture of the infinite, according to Lamm, is one where ingenuity and imagination can prevail over an obstacle and limits do not exist, only a lack of creativity. Practically, this means irrigation canals, trans-mountain water diversions, and

adaptations that allow life in Colorado's arid climate. "This reflects a devout belief in the limitless economic development, progress, and the perfectibility of the human condition and technology," said Lamm. "This is a world built around unlimited people and unlimited consumption."

"The second culture is the culture of the finite," continued Lamm.

young and unsettled, we're still acting as though it were." After flushing out the details of both sides, Lamm asked, "What if the culture of the infinite was only a temporary victory? The lessons that I've learned in my love affair with the west certainly support the second [finite] culture. Though I recognize that it is an important and open question. No growth can be exponential for very long."

Lamm's third parable was the story of football team owner Jack Kent Cooke and coach George Allen. Cooke, when he fired Allen, famously said, "I gave him an unlimited budget, and he exceeded it." "I believe there is no such thing as a free lunch, an unlimited budget, or endless growth," said

Lamm. "One of the real challenges of our society is to limit the population and stabilize the population of the United States."

Lamm finished his speech by discussing immigration, the ecosystem, and the idea of earth as a runaway train. Following the speech Lamm entertained about a dozen questions from the audience. Topics ranged from quality of life and innovative leadership to technology and practical workings of his view.



PATRICK BESEDA / OREDIGGER

Former Governor Lamm speaks at CSM about the contradictions between the infinite and the finite in the American West.

Scientific discoveries this week

Jake Rezac, Content Manager

Edmonton, Alberta: Scientists at the University of Alberta and the National Research Council's National Institute for Nanotechnology have drastically improved the performance of plastic solar cells. Scientists prefer using plastic solar cells to silicon, because of the huge cost differences between the two materials. The plastic solar cells use different layers – one to absorb light, one to generate electricity – to improve the cells over 30 percent over the last two years. Researchers hope that in five to seven years plastic solar panels will be mass-produced.

Oxford, UK: A team of Oxford scientists has uncovered unsettling news in the fight against HIV; the HIV virus is evolving to escape the human immune system. According to researchers, it demonstrates the high-speed of evolution which has occurred in the short time since HIV has interacted with humans. Although this could be a bad sign for the fight against HIV, scientists are optimistic that different human responses could come into play and be more effective.

Berkeley, California: Scientists at The University of California-Berkeley and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst have developed new methods of nanoscale assembly which could dramatically improve the data storage of electronic media. According to the scientists, the technique – in which polymer chains assemble into very precise patterns – could allow for over one terabyte of data to fit on a surface the size of a quarter.

Northern Kenya, Africa: Scientists have discovered fossils of 1.5 million-year-old human footprints. The footprints, which belonged to the human ancestor homo ergaster, prove that humans have been walking upright for longer than previously thought. The fossils, which are similar to modern day feet, are in stark contrast to 3.5 million-year-old Australopithecus footprints found 30 years ago in Tanzania. The Australopithecines were closer to apes than modern-day humans and, according to archeologists, the footprint comparison demonstrates the changes between the two human ancestors over a two million year period.

Oredigger Staff

- Sara Post
Editor-in-Chief
- Lily Giddings
Managing Editor
- Zach Boerner
Copy Editor
- Abdullah Ahmed
Business Manager
- Amanda Graninger
Design Editor
- Ryan Browne
Webmaster
- Cericia Martinez
Asst. Design Editor for Layout
- Robert Gill
Assistant Business Manager
- Ian Littman
Assistant Webmaster
- Mike Stone
Fool's Gold Content Manager
- Tim Weilert
Content Manager
- Jake Rezac
Content Manager
- Spencer Nelson
Content Manager
- Neelha Mudigonda
Content Manager
- David Frossard
Faculty Advisor



Headlines from around the world

Emily Trudell, Staff Writer

Media critics have stated that the newspaper industry is in “free fall” as the **Rocky Mountain News** printed its very last edition Friday with the headline “Good-bye, Colorado.” As more readers switch to online editions of periodicals, newspapers such as the Denver Post face cutbacks and layoffs.

Michelle Obama’s official portrait was revealed Friday. **The First Lady** chose the Blue Room of the White house as her background, and posed wearing a black sleeveless dress and a simple pearl necklace. The photo was taken by White House photographer Joyce N. Boghosian.

James Dobson, the evangelical leader of **Focus on the Family**, has stepped down from his position as the minister of the organization. Dobson, 72, has used his influential position to speak out against abortion rights, gay marriage, and even the popular Harry Potter series.

An **octopus** flooded the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium in California when it tugged on the valve in its tube, allowing hundreds of gallons of water to overflow the tank. While no sea creatures at the Aquarium were harmed, the new floors of the facilities were damaged.

Scientists have become increasingly concerned about corroding, **unexploded bombs** in the oceans surrounding Puerto Rico. The area is a former training site for the United States Navy, and it is estimated that there are hundreds of unexploded bombs on the sea floor, potentially leaking

toxic chemicals into the water.

A monk in **Southern China** set himself on fire Friday. The monk was reportedly holding a Tibetan flag, and was shot at by the police while he burned. It is believed that the monk immolated himself in protest of the banning of a New Year’s festival.

Over 40,000 **Somali refugees** displaced by drought and conflict in central and southern Somalia are returning to the country, though the area is still suffering from violence. The rush of refugees back to the country is most likely caused by the recent pull-out of Ethiopian

troops, who have been blamed for the killing of Somali citizens.

A study by the University of Plymouth published in *Applied Cognitive Psychology* showed that people who **doodle** tend to learn more that those who do not doodle, and also retain more information.

Ali Saleh Kahlah al-Marri, a terrorist from Qatar held on charges of conspiracy to provide support to **al-Qaeda**, was charged for his crimes after being held in the custody of the

United States since 2001.

Barack Obama named **Kathleen Sebelius**, governor of Kansas, as his nominee for Health and Human Services Secretary. Senator Tom Daschle was Obama’s original choice, but was forced to withdraw once it came out that he had not paid taxes on all of his earnings.

European government leaders at an **emergency summit** in Brussels vowed to uphold European Union (EU) principals. The summit was convened to create an united response to the global financial crisis.



Geophysicist makes a global difference

Erik Lord
Staff Writer

Three years ago, Dr. Roel Snieder asked himself, "Is this the biggest difference I can make?" And, for him, the answer was simple. "No. I think I can do more."

Dr. Snieder is a professor of Geophysics at the Colorado School of Mines, where he holds the endowed chair as the W.M. Keck Distinguished Professor of Basic Exploration Science. He spent his recent sabbatical working for the Global Climate and Energy Project at Stanford University, studying issues related to climate change and energy. He compiled his studies into an educational presentation entitled "The Global Energy Challenge" in order to share his findings with others. Mines was honored to have the opportunity to hear this informative lecture Tuesday in Meyer Hall as part of the Physics Colloquium.

The lecture began with perhaps the most telling visual to explain the pending global energy challenges. On the left, he showed a plot of the world energy demand that is projected to increase by nearly 70% in the next 25 years. Opposite this graph he displayed the world petroleum production, expected to peak within the next few years. "Petroleum is our main source of energy... currently accounting for 40% of our [needs]," he explained. "Most scenarios predict peak petroleum will occur sometime between today and ten years from now. So here's the challenge—world energy demand going up, petroleum production going down. What's the plan?"

He scanned the audience to see if anyone knew the global plan to solve the problem. The crowd was

silent. "That's my point," Snieder said. "This is a very important issue, and one of the reasons I started giving this lecture [was] to help people start thinking about a plan so we can start working on it."

He then presented the potential solutions, starting with the various forms of petroleum resources aside from conventional oil. These include heavy oil, oil shale, and tar sands. Oil shale is of particular interest in the state of Colorado, where there are large deposits on the western slopes of the Rockies. But he quickly explained that each of these resources requires extra processing in order to produce usable petroleum. "The energy is there, but these non-conventional petroleum methods consume a considerable amount of energy... often requiring the construction of power plants [dedicated] just to produce this energy resource," he explained.

And the increased use of petroleum and coal has another far-reaching price. "As we start tapping into these resources, we will start to produce more CO₂. This is how the whole climate issue and energy issue are connected."

"At the current rate of increasing carbon dioxide emissions, projections show an increase in global temperature by 4 degrees centigrade in the next century," he continued. While that doesn't sound considerable, the associated rise in the level of seawater is projected to be between 40 to 50 centimeters. This is sufficient to displace millions of people from their coastal homes—including more than 25 million people in Bangladesh.

To prevent these devastating effects, researchers have demonstrated the need to keep CO₂ emissions at their current levels—

around 385 parts per million. This will require a considerable effort worldwide. Because this is such a drastic reduction from the projected levels of CO₂, researchers have divided the steps up into wedges, each with the capacity to contribute to the overall goal of reduced emissions. "It's easier to deal with seven small problems than one big problem," Snieder explained. "And there are 15 technologies available right now that can each give us one wedge... for example, increasing energy efficiency and conservation."

Energy efficiency is an area of considerable interest. Global energy production is currently operating at approximately 35 percent efficiency. "We need to push that number to 60 percent," Snieder said. One potential solution is to increase the efficiency of the electrical distribution system, which has losses of more than 26 percent. And current research in the field of photovoltaics has shown considerable promise to make solar energy technology more economically viable.

There are many areas in which consumers and companies can reduce their emission of greenhouse gases. A study done by McKinsey, a business consulting company, demonstrated the cost analysis of CO₂-reducing measures. "Interestingly, many of these measures save money over a period of years," Snieder observed. "And it's really very simple. If you build an energy efficient building, you use less energy, which saves you money. So you're [reducing] carbon dioxide and saving money." Aside from more efficient buildings, other money-saving measures include higher efficiency vehicles and combined heat and power systems.

Naturally, other measures result in a net cost in order to curb carbon dioxide emissions. Renewable energy, for example, requires a considerable investment to build the necessary infrastructure. But the most expensive option was found to be carbon sequestration—the capture and storage of carbon by chemical or physical processes. "Currently this is the most expensive option and while research may bring this cost down, right now we should employ other methods," Snieder urged. He also stated the need for scientists to think logically about how we can best solve these complex problems.

Dr. Snieder explained that this is where the role of Mines becomes very important. He urged students to become professionals, seek out new opportunities, and push for energy conservation. "We have to be good scientists," Snieder explained, "and the biggest part of being good scientists is asking the right questions."

"With all of the research opportunities going on here [at Mines]," he added, "and the mindset [we have] of appreciating nature, there are many opportunities for Colorado institutions to make

technologies cheaper and more available. We should lead the way."

Snieder also pointed to the efforts that can be made by the population as a whole. "As citizens, we should ask our leaders to develop a realistic and sound energy plan." He also encouraged everyone to get involved in community groups, to discuss the issues, and to demand that the United States become a world leader in responsible energy policy.

In the past few years, Dr. Snieder has presented "The Global Energy Challenge" to more than sixty audiences, including middle schools, high schools, colleges, universities, local organizations, service clubs, and churches. The message he is conveying is not strewn with propaganda or driven by selfish motives. He simply encourages everyone that they should be aware of climate change issues and willing to contribute to developing a sustainable energy structure.

It is evident by his accomplishments that people can always do more. "It is important to empower people to make a difference," Snieder states on his website. "Let the emphasis be

on challenges and opportunities,

and give

people

ideas what

they can

do. Once

they get

involved

doing

some small

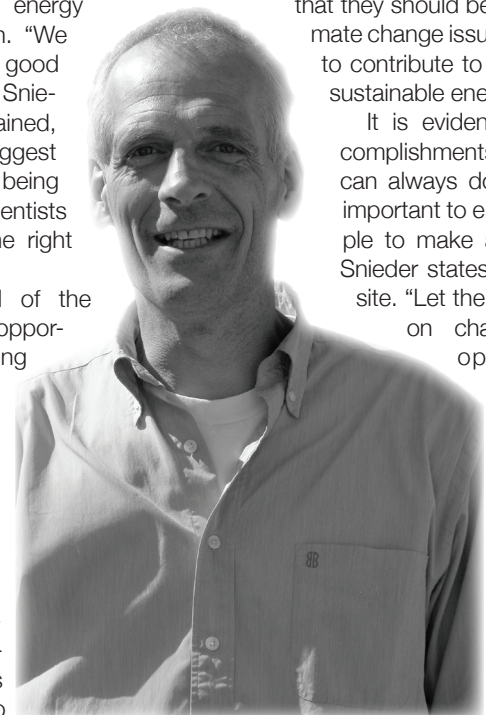
things, they

will discover

other ways

to make a

difference."



Dr. Roel Snieder is a professor at CSM

Art of Science

Erik Lord
Staff Writer

"A scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it." Maxwell Planck



Nickel button with steel wire brush wheel



COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
EARTH • ENERGY • ENVIRONMENT

Graduate Studies in Engineering and Technology Management

Division of Economics and Business

The Best of Both Worlds

Enhance your technical undergraduate degree with a Master of Science in Engineering and Technology Management (ETM). A growing number of working engineers and scientists have taken advantage of this unique graduate program.

- Learn business problem-solving techniques
- Enhance your leadership skills
- Develop a managerial perspective
- Integrate your technical and business skills
- Greatly increase your career opportunities

Join us for an Information Session and Reception to learn about the benefits of the ETM Program and to meet the ETM faculty, students, and alumni.

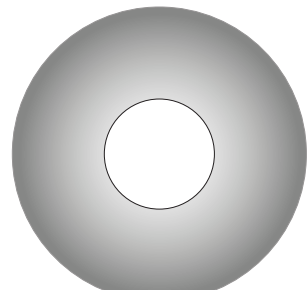
Monday, March 30th at 6:00 p.m.

Ben Parker Student Center – Ballroom C
1600 Maple Street, Golden

~ Refreshments will be served ~

Please RSVP by March 25th to kmartin@mines.edu

<http://etm.mines.edu>



Music Review

Dragon Chinese Cocktail Horoscope. Michael Zapruder

Spencer Nelson
Content Manager

Many people like to say music is their life. Typically, this involves listening to their favorite artists on their iPod, learning the guitar, scribbling down lyrics rattling through their head, and dreaming of making it big someday. Perhaps they even have a music blog. However, few people have more right to say that music is their life than Michael Zapruder. His job for Pandora as Curator involves looking for every piece of music they don't already have in their collection. Naturally, he listens to a lot of music. With this incredible intake of music of every kind, the influences on his musical style when composing blend and impact each other until the product music is as unique as it is varied. His latest release, *Dragon Chinese Cocktail Horoscope*, perfectly illustrates this one-of-a-kind artist's abilities. His folk style is preferential to fans of Andrew Bird and Arcade Fire.

Musically: There are few musicians that can be described as eclectic and organized at the same time. Michael Zapruder is one of those musicians. Quite often, melodies seem to be going off into nowhere. It's as if the song was over and he is going on some tangent, playing whatever comes to mind before the end of the track. However, that's just the beginning of the song on *Dragon Chinese Cocktail Horoscope*. Everything always seems to come together. The typical song structures have no home in this album. A good example is the progressive song "South Kenosha." It remains unpredictable from start to finish. Granted, a considerable amount of the song does repeat itself, it still feels like the first time due to slight variations throughout.

A remarkable aspect to Zapruder's work is the wide range

of instruments that appear in the album. It is often difficult to differentiate between them all because of how many there are. Everything from the guitar to synthesizers to members of the orchestra. Despite the variety, everything blends together perfectly to form an indistinct melody, rooting the album with a solid background for Zapruder's guiding vocals.

Lyrics: Poetry is more the point of Zapruder's lyrics than anything else. The songs typically portray a scene or situation. The first track, "Happy New Year," paints a picture of a time when the Chinese New Year fell at the same time as the Gregorian New Year and the general chaos that goes on. Small portraits are typically raised and replaced quickly. "South Kenosha"

starts with a picture of Vietnam being bombed and transitions into lovers enjoying the beautiful summer. Although

most songs don't have a readily apparent message, the lyrics still effectively create images that float along with the wandering melody.

Conclusion: Michael Zapruder has compiled a heap of music over his career. Once, he wrote a new song every week for an entire year, posting them online weekly. This ability to compose is clearly seen from start to finish on *Dragon Chinese Cocktail Horoscope*. From the opening piano of "Happy New Year" to the epic, 9-minute long "Black Wine" to electronic finish of "Experimental Film," Zapruder brings a depth to every corner of the album. With his poetic lyrics, varied instrumentation, and profound sound quality, Michael Zapruder has produced an album that can be listened to many times without becoming old.

Dragon Chinese Cocktail Horoscope will be available through SideCho Records on March 24.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Jimmy Eat World rocks Denver

Erik Lord
Staff Writer

Denver doesn't love very many squads from the state of Arizona. The Phoenix Suns get no love from Nuggets fans and we won't even mention the grumblings in the Rock Pile when the hated Arizona Diamondbacks come to town. But Monday night was a different story as two bands hailing from the Grand Canyon State, Jimmy Eat World and Reubens Accomplice, were welcomed to the Mile High City by a sold out Ogden Theater crowd.

Reubens Accomplice, a band relatively new to the indie scene, opened with a very short set that adequately warmed up those in the crowd who chose to actually show up on time. Accomplice has a sound that oozes with Jimmy Eat World influence, and they pleasantly surprised with their performance—despite spending considerably less time on the stage than the roadies who followed to set up for the headliners. But their set was long enough to see the potential for Reubens Accomplice to become a household name in the near future—at least for indie fans.

When Jimmy took the stage, they wasted no time getting Denver behind their cause, appropriately performing "Lucky Denver Mint" as their second song. Then the boys from Mesa turned back the clock with classics from the nineties, including several tunes that were released as rare singles. Their current tour has been called the "Clarity x 10 Tour" as a tribute to the ten-year anniversary of the album *Clarity* that was released in 1999. As part of the

special tour, Jimmy played the entire album as part of the show.

While Jimmy is an amazing live act, and it was great to hear some of their older work, it was noticeable that they had a complete disregard for their latest album, *Chase This Light*. While not their highest grossing effort, *Chase This Light* debuted at a band-best fifth spot on the Billboard 200 just two years ago. Yet Jimmy played nothing from this record—not one song. A few of their fan favorites were also missing from the set when they made the less-than-convincing exit from the stage before the "encore." The encore set ended up including just as many songs as the first act—so essentially Jimmy performed Act 1, an intermission, and Act 2.

Act 2 definitely did not disappoint. They naturally played the most popular Jimmy Eat World song, "In the Middle," a catchy tune that has garnered considerable radio play through the years and is prominently featured in the MTV video game *Rock Band*. But the highlight of the

show was "23," an underrated song that seems to have ten guitar solos - each better than the preceding. And I wasn't the only fan who knew all of the words and played my own (air) guitar along with talented frontman Jim Adkins.

Fans eagerly sang along with "Sweetness," a track that was cleverly written for just such a show, featuring a simple chorus of, "Whoa-oh-oh-oh-oh," that's even cued by the band saying, "sing it back!" The fans of the Ogden can sing quite well; Jimmy Eat World was noticeably impressed.

Mondays generally aren't the highlight of the week, but Jimmy Eat World gave Denver a reason to be excited about the start of a new week. Rumor has it the band is also working on a new album—perhaps next time they come to Denver they'll actually play something from their latest arsenal. Even if they don't, it will always be worth the price of a ticket—even if they are from Arizona.



ERIK LORD / OREDIGGER

Must See Movies Detective

Benjamin M. Weilert, Staff Writer

We're all familiar with the film noir style. Even if you don't know what the film noir style is, you're familiar with its basic themes. Detectives in hats, smoked glass windowed doors, cigarette smoke, and the distressed dame: all parts of the whole that is film noir. It is an intriguing genre, as it relies on twists and a lot of drama. The Must See Movies for this week look into a few films that have different takes on this genre.

1. Chinatown (1974)

If someone were to give a synopsis of *Chinatown* by saying that it is a movie about Jack Nicholson investigating the privatization of water in California, no one would ever want to see this film. However, if you add in murder and incest, *Chinatown* becomes much more intriguing. In this film, Nicholson portrays Jake Gittes, a Private Investigator who is charged with following the chief engineer for Los Angeles' water department. The woman who has hired Gittes, Evelyn Cross Mulwray (Faye Dunaway), hired him under the false guise of the engineer's wife. As Gittes investigates the matter, he finds much more is going on than the standard extra-marital affair. In the end, he can't really do anything to change the situation: "Forget it, Jake. It's Chinatown." The American Film Institute (AFI) has placed *Chinatown* at #21 on its top 100 list.

2. Dirty Harry (1971)

Most everyone is familiar with this film in some form. Be it Clint Eastwood as the gritty Inspector Harry Callahan, the 44-magnum he uses throughout the film, or the use of the word "Punk," there is some aspect of *Dirty Harry* that has been ingrained into popular culture. Yet another film set in California (this time it's San Francisco), *Dirty Harry* examines the tactics of a cop who doesn't play by the regular rules. A serial sniper has been killing innocent people, and Harry has been assigned to the case. The sniper (who goes by the name "Scorpio"), toys with Harry in a cat and mouse game that would make any normal cop quit. However, since Harry didn't get his nickname from not bathing, Scorpio is eventually taken care of by a simple counting game. Possibly Clint Eastwood's defining role, *Dirty Harry* is a must see for anyone who loves his directing and/or acting, including his recent film, *Gran Torino* (2009).

3. The Third Man (1949)

At #57 of AFI's first top 100 list made in 1998, *The Third Man* is a staple for any fan of Orson Welles. The only strange aspect of this film is the fact that the score is highly zither-centric. This tends to make the situation much lighter than it should be, and makes murder sound like a walk in the park. Still, this movie has some great twists and ambiance. Set in Vienna after the war, *The Third Man* follows Holly Martins, who has been invited to Vienna by an old school friend, Harry Lime (Orson Welles), who has a job for Martins. When Martins gets to Vienna, he finds out that his friend is no longer there. In fact, he's dead. This makes for some interesting twists, as Martins tries to figure out what happened, eventually coming upon the mystery of a third man that was seen at the scene of the crime. With romance, drama and mystery, *The Third Man* is a must see movie.

For Homework – See *The Maltese Falcon* (1941)

Geeks of the Week

...Victor and Vince Mazzarella, Juniors: Civil Engineering

Benjamin Johnson
Staff Writer

[Oredigger] Do you consider yourself a geek?

[Victor] Yes I consider myself a geek. I guess I have gone over to a few parties and like to do Rubik's cubes and read Harry Potter.

[Vince] I would say... yeah sure. The difference between the nerds and the geeks is that the geeks get the girls, so yeah I would say I am a geek.

Do you think others consider you a geek?

[Victor] I am going to say yes, I think the reason is that I do not have the greatest grades but I can do nerdy stuff pretty well.

[Vince] I hope not.

Do you have any strange talents?

[Victor] Yes, I draw mazes and you can print some of them in the paper if you want.

[Vince] No, none that I can think of.

What is the geekiest you own?

[Victor] A lava lamp.

[Vince] What?! Lava lamps are not geeky, they are so cool.

These are some tough questions. My Calc BC t-shirt from high school, they have huge equations on them but simplify to say "We are #1."

What is the geekiest thing you have done in college?

[Victor] I would not say it is the geekiest thing but we hiked South Table Mountain and shot off firecrackers at the top. We could see all the cop cars coming after us and we thought we were in huge trouble.

[Vince] Probably just staying at the library until closing a couple of nights in a row studying and finishing up homework.

What made you choose Mines?

[Victor] The prestige. We did not really know about it but we knew we wanted to be engineers, heard about the school and found out that it was up there, so we came.

[Vince] I heard about it from our

uncle, and he said it was a really good school. We always wanted to be engineers and fortunately we got accepted and said this was the school for us.

What class is your favorite and why?

[Victor] I would say Structural Theory because that is what I hope to be doing for my job and Professor Kiouis always keeps me interested and thinks outside the box, which is really great.

[Vince] I would probably have to say Thermodynamics right now because Professor Romberger is very funny and is able to keep me entertained in addition to teaching well.

What do you plan on doing after college?

[Victor] We will probably get a job for 5-7 years and then sometime down the road Vince and I will go into business and build houses and name the company V^2.

[Vince] I have the same plan as Victor.

What are your hobbies?

[Victor] Being active, for instance, going to rugby and doing a lot of IM sports like basketball. We also have a swimming class; we like to be

healthy as well as use our brains.

[Vince] We are on the club rugby team, men's of course; the guys on the rugby team are crazy. Other hobbies are: I am the liaison for all of the club sports and then I am part of ASCE and AGC. The one thing I do like is the professional civil engineering society because I think that will be important for my career.

If you were stuck on a deserted, barren island and could have three items, what would they be?

[Victor] Rubik's cube so I can work my mind, volleyball because there is sand, and a surfboard because after I build up my body with volleyball and my mind with the cube, I can get off of the island.

[Vince] A hot chick, steak, and since I am 21, probably a beer, Corona - with a lime.

[Victor] That is four items.

[Vince] No, no, the lime comes with the Corona.

What is an embarrassing fact about you?

[Victor] Whenever you score your first 'tri' for the rugby team, you have to do a zulu. A zulu is when you have to run end to end naked, and my whole high school found out about it.

[Vince] I guess going to when I was give a pre-

sentation; I had to walk up on stage and tripped over.

What is your favorite aspect of Mines?

[Victor] I would say the good teachers, the small atmosphere, just being able to hang out with different people. There are the nerd jocks, and everyone here is smart, but you can be around a variety of people.

[Vince] Just the small environment where you know everyone, can talk to people, and the good teachers.

What would you do with a million dollars?

[Victor] Well the economy is not so great right now, so usually I would invest it, but now I would probably put it under my mattress. But the way I look at it is if you save it, you have it for later.

[Vince] I would almost say the exact opposite about the economy. Since the economy is at a low point, it is going to grow so I would invest in the stock market.

What is the best thing about being a

twin?

[Victor] It is always having your best friend around. If you could shrink down your best friend and put him in your pocket, that is what is like.

[Vince] Sometimes, I feel like we have telepathy. We are thinking about the exact same thing, it is pretty crazy sometimes. That is what I like, and he is a good friend to talk with; he will give me good advice.

What is the worst part of being a twin?

[Victor] I would say there is nothing bad about having a twin if you like your twin, which we do.

[Vince] The worst thing is in high school, he had always been smarter than me, but I like to think I was always a little more athletic, but now that we are in college, he has rugby where he is really good.

What is the biggest difference between you two?

[Victor] The biggest difference is the weight; whenever we wrestle, he always wins.

[Vince] Twenty pounds is probably the biggest difference. People do not think he is that much heavier but he is.

What is the closest similarity?

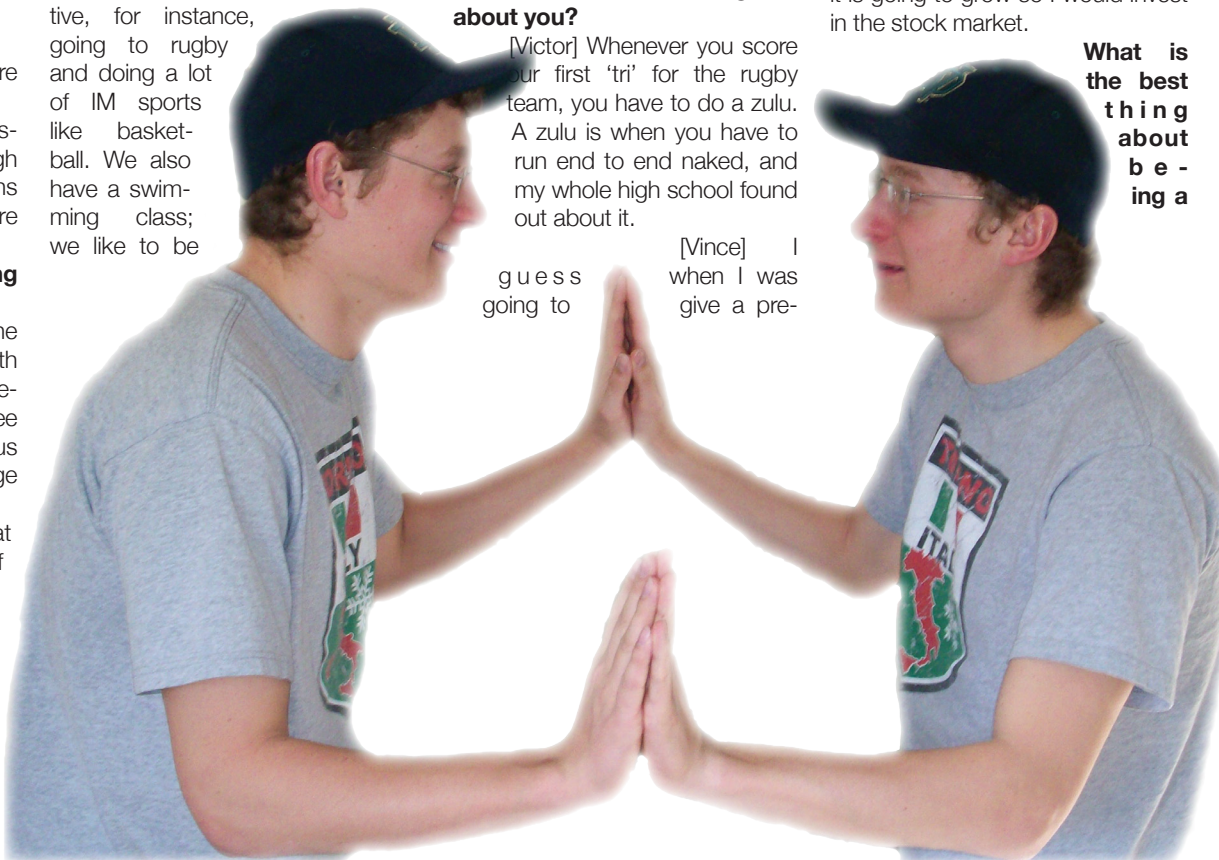
[Victor] I would say when we grow out our hair we look a lot more similar.

[Vince] Sometimes we say the exact same thing at the exact same time, and our voices sound very near the same.

What is your best weird twin story?

[Victor] It is not one story but up until this point in our college, career we have the same GPA even though we have different grades in different classes.

[Vince] I think it was in junior high, we had a substitute teacher so we switched names and took it to the end of the day and our friends thought it was pretty funny, but it was not that big of a deal.



BENJAMIN JOHNSON / OREDIGGER

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. John Berger

Benjamin M. Weilert
Staff Writer

John Berger is the type of professor that considers a lecture in which he can use the words "skosh" and "behoove" an above-average lecture. Starting out at the Colorado School of Mines in 1993 as an adjunct professor, Dr. Berger joined the faculty full time the next year and has loved teaching here ever since.

On the surface, John seems like he wouldn't fit the professor stereotype. After high school, he spent some time in Chicago playing in a band and working at an ink factory. He enjoys spending time in the great outdoors with such hobbies as Nordic skiing, bicycling, trail running, and motorcycling. If he was given the chance to do anything else other than teach, he'd spend his time on long motorcycle trips.

However, teaching is his true passion. "In terms of a job, [teach-

ing] doesn't feel like a job. For me, it's a perfect job," Berger explained. His background is mainly out of a laboratory that specialized in fracture mechanics and has given him opportunities to work across department boundaries. Dr. Berger works at CSM with boundary element methods on various topics ranging from the highly scientific such as soil mechanics, ceramics, rock fracture, and fuel cells, to the practical, including testing procedures to determine the amount of rot in telephone poles. Each topic is associated to some other department, from Mathematics to Chemical Engineering. "It's applied mechanics. A lot of projects will have a mechanics component to them, so that's where I come in," said Berger.

If anyone ever gets the chance to sit down and talk with Berger, they will see that he loves the people at Mines. Having been at CSM for 16 years, he finds that the best

part of being here is the students. "I like the students," he explained. "The students here are really unique. I find them really motivated." Since Berger has worked at various other institutions, he finds this student motivation refreshing. "I also like the faculty. I've got a lot of good friends that I've made on the faculty, and they're some of my closest friends."

In terms of advice, Berger would tell his students, "Have fun." Sometimes it can be easy to be sucked into the seriousness of Engineering, so having fun is some good advice. "Don't forget that there are other parts of life than just school or a job." Of course, John feels that the students at CSM are adept at being well rounded, "Our students seem to be pretty good about getting outside and doing things."

The academic advice that Berger gives is pursuing graduate education, specifically a Masters degree. He reminisces about a

previous job he had done drafting work (pre-computers, with pen and ink), where all the interesting and cool jobs ended up going to the one guy who had the Masters degree.

When posed with the question

of having any other job other than being a professor, Berger said,

"I can't imagine. I really can't, I love teaching. I love the research component too." It is truly inspirational to find someone who is so enthusiastic about teaching.



BENJAMIN M. WEILERT / OREDIGGER

ASCE bridge competition challenges CSM students

Benjamin Johnson
Staff Writer

Spring has come, bringing sunshine, fresh air, and the annual American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) bridge competition. On March 5, two teams from Mines took over a section of Kafadar Commons to exhibit and test their prototypes while many people walking by stopped to watch. "It is a national competition, the challenge is to develop a bridge that can support a load and perform within specified limits," explained Joseph Crocker, a faculty aid for the competition.

During the competition, the bridges were loaded with weight to test the structural integrity of the bridge. The primary criteria for judging was that the bridge had to support 2500 pounds while not deflecting, or bending more than two inches. Other specifications included certain dimension and material constraints. Bridges had to be made out of steel and could not be more than a predetermined length. The teams were also judged on the time it took to construct the disassembled bridge during the competition.

Two teams competed from Mines but only one could win and move on to the regional competition at Brigham Young University (BYU) in April. The first team to compete stopped loading weight at 900 pounds because it was near failing and they did not want to ruin the bridge; the second bridge

failed, meaning part of the structure broke, at 300 pounds, which ended the competition for both teams. Whether or not one of the teams will travel to BYU for the regional competition was not immediately determined.

The regional competition consists of around 30 teams from the western region and most of the engineering universities in the region participate. Crocker commented that it was nearly impossible to conclude who would win the regional competition or even if a team from Mines would do well because, "Sometimes a team has a completely unique concept that fits within the design specifications and walks away with [a victory]."

The bridge competition was the "culmination of months of design

and labor for the two teams," said Crocker. It was a senior design project for many of the competitors

but some of the participants took a special class for the sole purpose of designing a bridge and then entering it into the competition. Both civil engineering and mechanical engineering majors could work on the project. A member from one of the teams, Brian Maples, said, "I had to do this because it was assigned," when asked if he enjoyed the competition. Crocker said that some of the merits of the project were that it "develops design sensitivity and design capabilities," but Maples insisted that for his career "I don't know if I would ever do anything like this."

It is a national competition, the challenge is to develop a bridge that can support a load and perform within specified limits



ALL PHOTOS CHRIS FEHN / OREDIGGER



MINES STUDENTS CONSTRUCT THEIR BRIDGES FOR THE COMPETITION AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY FOR THE NATIONAL ASCE COMPETITION.

change is brewing. and steaming. and frothing.

Grab a new McDonald's® custom made creamy latte, chocolaty mocha or frothy cappuccino made with freshly ground espresso beans, steamed whole or low-fat milk and all your favorite flavors.

new

FREE McCafé®

Choose a small hot Latte, Mocha, Cappuccino or Hot Chocolate, OR a medium Iced Latte or Iced Mocha.

NO PURCHASE REQUIRED

Expires April 15, 2009. Includes all McCafé Coffees. Excludes Premium Roast Coffee and Premium Roast Iced Coffee. Valid only at participating McDonald's restaurants in Colorado, Wyoming and Alliance, Gering, Ogallala, Scottsbluff and Sydney, NE. Current prices and participation based on independent operator decision. Prices may vary. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer, discount, coupon or combo meal. Cash value 1/20 of 1 cent. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Plus tax if applicable. Coupon may not be transferred, copied or duplicated in any way or transmitted via electronic media. Valid when products served. May not be valid on custom orders. ©2009 McDonald's

**LATTES, CAPPUCCINOS
AND MOCHAS**

Campus Benefactors:

Victor C. Alderson

Andrew Ferguson
Staff Writer

Dr. Victor C. Alderson was President of the Colorado School of Mines from 1903 to 1913 and again from 1917 to 1925. Alderson was the only president of Mines to serve non-consecutive terms, a feat made even rarer since he was fired from both his presidencies.

A descendant of Elder William Brewster, a member of the Mayflower, Victor Clifton Alderson was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts on June 4, 1862 to Andrew and Sarah. Alderson started his academic career after graduating from Harvard College in 1885. Right after graduation, Alderson secured a job as Superintendent of Public Schools in Dublin, Indiana. He remained there for two years until he became an instructor at Englewood High School in Chicago, Illinois in 1887. On July 3, 1888, Alderson married Harriet E. Thomas, with whom he had at least one daughter. Alderson left Englewood High School to become a Professor of Mathematics at the Armour Institute of Technology (now called the Illinois Institute of Technology) in Chicago. Shortly thereafter, in 1898, Alderson became Dean of the Armour Institute of Technology. He also served as acting president of AIT between 1900 and 1901, before returning to his duties as Dean.

It was as Dean at the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago that the Colorado School of Mines Board of Trustees hired Alderson, just after he completed his Doctorate of Science at AIT.

Alderson visited Golden and the

Colorado School of Mines campus in the early summer of 1903 and was appointed as president by July of that same year.

During his tenures, he "would become one of the most controversial presidents of the school and would eventually face personal lawsuits from disgruntled alumni and others."^[1] Part of Alderson's controversy stemmed from his research in oil shale. Many people, students and faculty alike, felt that Alderson spent too much of his time researching shale and not enough of his time tending to his duties as president. Furthermore, several professors complained that Alderson was interfering in their "sphere of responsibility."^[2]

During his second round as president, Alderson established the Petroleum Engineering curriculum at Mines in 1919. The next year, he published "The Oil Shale Industry," the first book on the oil shale industry published in the United States. During Alderson's tenure, "CSM became the first institution to establish a formal curriculum in geological engineering and to offer the degree of geological Engineer."^[3]

Dr. Alderson received an honorary Doctorate of Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1938.

Alderson died in 1946 in La Jolla, California.

Designed for use in the education of petroleum and chemical engineering, construction of Alderson Hall was completed in 1953 at a cost of \$1.2M and named after Dr. Alderson, a rather fitting tribute, considering its purpose.

Renovation and additions to the

original Alderson Hall were completed in 1994.

Sources:

[1] http://www.alumnifriends.mines.edu/alumni_former/history/default.htm

[2] http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/placenames/search3.cfm?ps_oid=113070&search=

[3] <http://www.alumnifriends.mines.edu/tour/alderson/01.htm>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_School_of_Mines

http://books.google.com/books?id=v1SFumzkbUC&pg=RA1-PA21&lpg=RA1-PA21&dq=Victor+Alderson+Englewood+High+School&source=bl&ots=S681KNz8xy&sig=v4judToGir5_FleIXIkBl9qhdzw&hl=en&ei=26i6SdioLIKqsAO56_FE&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=5&ct=result

http://books.google.com/books?id=qIsoAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA557&lpg=PA557&dq=1862+Victor+Alderson&source=bl&ots=P9tbaq5Ju&sig=LacU9OkE2-dM55TU5zJtypdqS-4&hl=en&ei=7626ScOQE5KasAPrn9A9&sa=X&oi=book_result&resnum=7&ct=result

<http://www.chilit.org/Roll%20of%20Members/A.htm>

http://www.ceri-mines.org/documents/A02b-GaryOSSHistoryJB_000.pdf

Eckley, Wilton. Rocky Mountains to the World: A History of The Colorado School of Mines. Virginia Beach, VA: The Donning Company Publishers, 2004.

Morgan, Jesse R. A World School: The Colorado School of Mines. Denver, CO: Sage Books, 1955

"This is the place for men to work, and not for boys to play."-Victor Alderson

BREE WALTMAN / OREDIGGER



Club Spotlight

Society of American Military Engineers

Benjamin Johnson
Staff Writer

SAME, founded in 1919, aims to combine the experience gained in the military and the knowledge attained from engineering into an organization that develops the relationship between the public and private sectors. The worldwide organization is a networking tool that helps active military members transition to life in the civilian arena. There are also many opportunities provided to students through internships, scholarships, and the ability to get connected with the military.

The student chapter at Mines meets about once a month on a Tuesday or Wednesday night. Each meeting usually consists of a speaker who is in the military or was in the military and has some affiliation with the engineering profession; soda and pizza are also provided. The CSM chapter hosts an event once a semester wherein people from the entire post attend to hear a special speaker and enjoy a catered meal. Adam Smiley and Joe Geiger are the presidents of the Mines chapter and Robert Versaw acts as the vice president.

On March 11, Derek Ulehla, senior engineer and project manager for Camp Dresser and McKee (CDM), a firm that focuses on consulting, engineering, and construction, spoke to students about his background as a part of SAME and his role at CDM. Ulehla also has been in the Army Reserve for 17 years and is currently an Army Reserve Major. He shared some of his experiences with the audience composed of people from Army ROTC, Air Force ROTC, and some

who were interested in joining the military upon graduating college. "The best job in the army, in my opinion, is company commander," he reflected. One of Ulehla's favorite parts of being in the reserves is that "there are so many opportunities that my compadres in the private sector do not have." Another benefit of the reserves, he explained, was that there are always "fascinating experiences that you can pick up that most people don't know about."

Ulehla, a long time member of SAME, considered the organization a tremendous opportunity for people in the military interested in engineering and said it was a "complete career enhancer." His personal life was a reflection of the benefits available through the society because "through SAME I got the job I have now," a job that he might not have received if he did not have the connection with SAME. Member Bobby Strain commented that

"SAME will make the transition easier [between active duty military and the private sector]."

the society "is a great networking organization for future engineers in all branches

of the military." Versaw said that, because of SAME, he had the "opportunity to fly out to Los Angeles, California for the national SAME conference" where they offered him "good and practical tips" on how to be a leader. Ulehla encouraged anyone in the military or considering being in the military to join the organization. He concluded by saying, "SAME will make the transition easier [between active duty military and the private sector]."

On March 24, SAME will host Joseph "Bud" Ahearn, senior vice president of CH2MHILL and Major General in the United States Air Force. The presentation will be open to the public.

The 2009 Young Environmental Symposium presents

PETER H. GLEICK

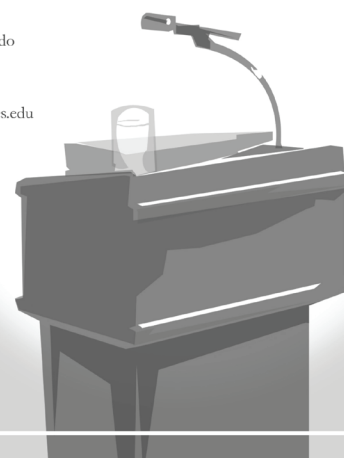


"Peak Water and its Implications for a Sustainable Water Future"

Tuesday, March 24, 2009
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Reception to follow

Colorado School of Mines
Green Center, Metals Hall
924 16th Street, Golden, Colorado

RSVP by March 18, 2009
Arrive early; seating limited
Email jeannie.jacobson@is.mines.edu
Phone 303.273.3147



From the Editor's Desk

Changes in the BSO and what they mean for clubs

At the CSM Board of Student Organizations (BSO) meeting March 3, a new method was proposed for budget allocations and the classification of clubs. This system involves at least 3 tiers of clubs, all of which would be required to submit goals for the organization and progress reports on those goals.

While the concept of reporting to the BSO might sound like a good one, there are several problems with it.

The biggest issue is the initial classification of the clubs into tiers. BSO's executive board proposes to do this by meeting with each club's leadership team. This leaves the classification of each organization to the subjective values of the given members of BSO's exec.

What BSO must have, instead, is a rigorous set of standards that a club must meet to be placed in a given tier. These standards must be published and widely available, not to mention approved by both the organizations BSO claims to represent and ASCSM.

A transition like the one proposed could not possibly happen in the time frame set forth - by next semester. Vigorous debate, lively discussion, and the accounting of various clubs' opinions are required before something of this scope can begin to take shape.

Second is the matter of the budget ceilings. There are four organizations on campus that all ask for more than \$20,000. They are the Mines Activity Council, *The Oredigger Newspaper*, Rec Sports, and

the Winter Carnival. These groups cannot easily be restricted to budget ceilings, one of the proposed restrictions in the new tier system due to the fact that the budgets of these organizations vary greatly depending on the projections for the next year.

A proposed compromise to the tier system in a bid to placate the larger organizations is to place them in a "fourth tier." This tier would be excused from the budget ceilings but would still be required to submit reports and goals at various times throughout the semesters.

This budget oversight is almost entirely unnecessary. The budgeting committee, which determines at the end of the year how much money organizations are to receive, already looks over budget proposals and determines whether they should receive the amount asked for or whether they don't deserve the amount requested.

The BSO argues that the tier system would make the budgeting process easier. However, the plan contradicts this because all clubs will want more benefits than the tier they are in allows. To move up a tier, a club must expand, to expand, a club is going to require a larger budget, so all clubs will effectively be asking for more money each year. This makes the budgeting committee's task even more difficult, because the committee must determine which budgets are actually worthy of an increase and which are just trying to move up a tier. In short, the plan compli-

cates the process for the budgeting committee, whose meetings already extend over several days.

The budget oversight is also redundant. The issue that the BSO is trying to fix - insufficient representation of smaller clubs on the budgeting committee - has been addressed by the budgeting committee this year.

The tiered system also creates an unfair hierarchy. Tier 3 clubs - currently the largest in the plan - have the most power and benefits of any club in the system.

Possibly the most important to clubs is the process of reserving a room. Under the current system, it's first come, first serve. The way the new system is set up, if a tier 1 club were to reserve a room, say, Ballroom A, and a week later, a tier 3 club wanted to reserve Ballroom A for the same date, then the tier 3 club would get priority, no matter how early the tier 1 club had reserved the room.

Another limitation of the system is that smaller clubs would be required to reserve rooms up to a year in advance, something for which many clubs could not possibly be expected to plan.

Further limitations that would be imposed upon tier 1 and 2 clubs is the serving of alcohol at club events. Tier 3 clubs would be allowed to serve alcohol at any event, whereas tier 1 and 2 clubs would not be able to serve alcohol under any circumstances, regardless of age.

And yet, despite all the advantages for tier 3 clubs already, they



Why editorialize?

Tim Weilert
Content Manager

Perhaps this is the article I should have written first. In my short time at Mines, I've been blessed to be part of an organization that reports on pertinent news and events in a way that is accessible and necessary for the continued exchange of ideas.

Recently I've been thinking a lot about the idea of community. What is community? Why is it so important at CSM and how do the lessons learned outside the classroom play into the grander scheme of things? I believe, first and foremost, that within the public realm (of newspapers specifically), we have a civic duty to stir discussion, always leading toward a more improved state of community.

For this reason, I have decided to take it upon myself to provide

commentary on current events, philosophies, and standards with the hope of bringing out a spirit of debate and growth on campus. Furthermore, I limit myself to 300 words or less (to keep things accessible and on-par with *The Oredigger's* letters to the editor policy; plus if an opinion can't be expressed in 300 words, it needs some work before sharing). You may not agree with everything I have to say, and I may not agree with your thoughts, but at least we're presenting both sides in a way that is constructive and respectful.

We are the educated. Our time at Mines is short, so why not prepare for more "real-worldy" scenarios by discussing the ones we see in our microcosm. In the weeks to come I hope to cover issues ranging from "commenter culture" to the fundamental ideas behind what we call community.

have perks, too.

The best tier 3 club would be given a prize at a party that would be held at the end of the year - but only tier 3 clubs would be able to attend.

The best tier 2 club would also get a prize, but it would be given separately and tier 1 clubs would not get anything, no matter how much of a difference they made on campus.

Although this is surely an at-

tempt by BSO to help the student organizations it was designed to serve, it has clearly not been very well thought out.

BSO needs to carefully consider the opinions and concerns of member organizations. Since the plan would directly affect the operations of every organization on campus. Because of this, the plan must have ASCSM's approval.

As it stands, the plan is redundant and ineffectual.

Have an opinion you want to share?

Is there a topic that you feel should be more widely covered?

Write for the Oredigger!

Make your opinion known

Submissions must be less than 1,000 words and submitted to oredig@mines.edu by Friday nights at 11 pm.

Winter made fun by the ORC

Skis and snowboards arrive

Cameron Frisby
Staff Writer

For years students have been coming in to the Outdoor Recreation Center (ORC) asking to rent skis and snowboards. Until this February, they were politely informed that the ORC's rental program did not include skis or snowboards. The frustrated students then had to settle for a weekend of snowshoeing or pay steep rental fees at local outfitters.

This semester the ORC expanded its rental program to include alpine skis, snow-

boards, and telemark skis. The organization unveiled its newly acquired equipment in a discount rental weekend early in February. Since then, students have jumped on the bandwagon and have enjoyed taking discounted trips to the slopes.

Pat Langendorfer, the ORC intern, described the advantages to using the new equipment. "Renting at the ORC is much more convenient that going off-campus and the rental packages are cheaper than any local business. The discounts are possible because your student fees are being put to good use. People have also been impressed with

the quality of the gear, especially the Black Diamond Kilowatt tele-skis."

In addition to the new equipment, the ORC has been contracted by Copper Mountain and Winter Park/Mary Jane to sell lift tickets. Instead of spending \$82 at King Soopers, or \$92 at the resorts, tickets will be available for \$72 at the ORC. Furthermore, a \$5 discount is available when purchased with a ski or snowboard rental package.

Tyler Mori, a sophomore, explained what he thought about the changes at the ORC, "Now it is really easy to get beginners started on the slopes. You can pick up the skis and tickets on Friday and be completely ready for the weekend."

The basic ski

Students can now rent alpine skis, telemark skis and snowboards at the ORC

package start at \$16 and snowboard packages start at \$25 for the week-

end. The full list of prices for day, weekend, and week-long packages are available at <http://recsports.mines.edu/morc/rentals/snowsports.htm>.

PA makes swimming an option

David Underwood
Staff Writer

No one likes to be the weakest swimmer in the pool. There is nothing quite like being in shape and feeling healthy. The Mines physical activities program offers a great opportunity to get in shape and become proficient in the water through Beginning and Intermediate Swimming courses: PAGN 211 and PAGN 212, respectively.

Unlike what many people might think, "It's not about speed. It's about learning the mechanics perfectly," explained class coordinator, coach Kevin Sage. "The basis of the grade for the class is just participation. I think some people worry about signing up for the class just because they are worried they will be slow in the water and get an F. It's not about who can get across the pool the fastest." As is the case for other PA classes, the grade is based mostly on attendance. If a student goes to all the classes and

participates, he get an A. Missing a few will result in a B or a C.

The average day, depending on the level of class, starts with a warm up of between 300 to 600 yards using different swim methods, followed by a drill set to work on certain mechanics. Next will generally be a mini-swim set. "Some days we will drill more than others, other days we will swim more... and get a pretty good workout," Sage explained. Although he challenges his students, he never pushes them past their limits.

The class is pretty open as far as who should join: anyone who loves being in the water and wants to improve their skills. Sage made a point that everyone considering the class should definitely "be very water safe. People shouldn't join the class expecting to go from being petrified of water to being proficient swimmers. A college course just can't offer that kind of one on one attention." As long as one knows how to swim and doesn't have a bad case of hy-

drophobia, the class has a good chance of working out.

General assessment for the class occurs during three skills test, one at the beginning, one midterm, and a final skills test. The goal for each of these is to show improvement.

Sage expects, "People should find themselves getting faster or the swimming should be getting a whole lot easier as time goes on. If [the students] are in the water 2 days a week, they should become a lot more efficient at moving through the water."

Students wanting to take the class should sign up as soon as possible, as there is limited room in the pool and class expansion can only go so far. The class is a great opportunity to fill up the required PA credit, or just for fun. Healthy habits can also help counteract all that stress that builds up from CAPA and Calculus, or help you catch the eye of that special someone.

PATRICK BESEDA ? OREDIGGER



Women's basketball ends season

Jake Rezac
Content Manager

The Oredigger Women's Basketball Team's season ended last Saturday in a 62-42 loss to CSU-Pueblo. The loss was in the championship game of the RMAC Shootout, in which the team finished second. Along with a stellar performance in the tournament, the team finished with a Mines all-time best record of 19 wins and 11 losses. They were RMAC East Division regular season co-champions and finished 14-5 in RMAC regular season play - another Mines record. Furthermore, head coach Paula Krueger became the winning-est coach in CSM Women's Basketball history.

On their way to the champion-

ship game, the team defeated Regis 73-59 and Nebraska-Kearney 63-56. Before the game against Kearney, Coach Krueger demonstrated some of the confidence she had in her team. Although they had lost to Kearney just a few days earlier, she explained that, "We aren't going to change anything - we are just going to execute better!"

After these wins, the Mines team lost a hard-fought battle against CSU-Pueblo. Krueger reacted to her team's performance after the game. "We always play hard and with heart. Could we have shot better? Sure, but played any harder or given anymore? No way. Of course we were happy to make the championship game, but none of us were satisfied with just getting there."

Krueger chalks up this year's success to a special team. "Overall this team has been great. We have an outstanding chemistry and are very dedicated to each other on and off the court... they are truly like sisters."

Krueger is hopeful for next year's team. "[We] gave a great effort to achieve all of our goals. I think getting a taste and just missing has fueled the fire for next year... [We] are very excited about our returners and the incoming class. Each year is different, and success is relative. We plan to put our best foot forward each time we step on the court." Krueger is particularly exited about their record-winning season, in terms of next year's play, "Records are meant to be broken - so it gives us something to shoot for."

Scoreboard

Information courtesy of Mines Athletics

Mar. 1, 2009 - Colorado School of Mines and the University of Nebraska - Kearney split a Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) baseball doubleheader on Sunday afternoon, March 1, Darden Field in Golden. UNK won by the count of 13-9 (10 innings) in game one before the Orediggers responded with a 4-2 victory in the nightcap.

Mar. 6, 2009 - Regis University defeated Colorado School of Mines by the score of 4-1 in Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) baseball action on Friday evening, March 6, at Darden Field in Golden.

Mar. 8, 2009 - Regis University swept Colorado School of Mines in a Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) baseball doubleheader on Sunday afternoon, March 8, at Darden Field in Golden. The Rangers came back from nine runs down to win 12-11 in the opener before recording a 17-2 victory in game two.

Mar. 13, 2009 - Colorado State University - Pueblo defeated Colorado School of Mines by the score of 9-5 in Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) baseball action on Friday afternoon, March 13, at Darden Field in Golden.

Mar. 14, 2009 - Colorado State University - Pueblo swept Colorado School of Mines in a Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) baseball doubleheader on Saturday afternoon, March 14, at Darden Field in Golden. The ThunderWolves came away with a 10-2 victory in game one and prevailed 13-3 in the nightcap.

Mar. 14, 2009 - The Colorado School of Mines men placed ninth at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field National Championships on March 13 and 14 at the Yeoman Fieldhouse on the campus of the University of Houston



One of Downtown Golden's anchor stores, offering ...

- * Convenient Shopping
- * Great Prices
- * A Huge Selection
- * Innovativeness

- * Homegrown Customer Service
- * A Fundamental Love for the Golden Community!

"Downtown Golden - Where the West Shops"

13th & Washington
Golden
(303) 279-3373
Credit Cards Accepted



is our specialty!

Proud to support CSM!

Fool's Gold

“Luck of the Irish for yea.”



The legend of St. Patrick

The DaDrunken Code

Mike Stone
I'm Irish-Kiss Me!

Many people know the tradition - drink green beer as much as you can and as fast as you can. After all, nothing says remembrance of a Catholic Saint and the respectful tradition of the Irish people like passing out in a gutter; but, who was the man? How did St. Patrick start these traditions? The answer goes deeper than one might expect and, for those who seek it, they may never see a bagpipe again.

In approximately 460 AD, a young boy was abducted from his British home by Irish invaders. For 6 years, the boy was enlisted as a slave to herd sheep. Upon seeing a vision in a dream from God, he escaped back to Britain. With the occurrence of another dream, the boy soon studied the Christian faith for 15 years, became a priest, and returned to Ireland to teach the Irish people of Jesus and God. It is said that the Priest, Patrick, would use the three leaves of a shamrock to teach about the holy trinity.

This is the story of St. Patrick that people are told, but what they aren't being told is much more difficult to believe.

The Irish people were originally pagans and used bonfires to praise the Gods and the Sun. In order to appease the Irish and still change their ways, Patrick would make meals from these fires. It is said that he would wrap a baby pig in grass and throw it through the fire. With a great flash, corned beef and cabbage would emerge from the other side. They would use a large pot to catch the fresh meals. It is from these demonstrations of sorcery that we get images of leprechauns today. Everyday, Patrick would get closer and closer to where he stayed as a slave to one day teach his captors of God.

After several displays of this feat and just short of his home long ago, St. Patrick was kidnapped by non-believers on March 17, 500 AD. This was just four days after the famous Spanish Inquisition's Bloody Friday the 13 and raid was believed to be funded by the King of the Ottoman Empire. History books remark that St. Patrick died that same day in a struggle with his captors, but there is a legend of a traveler by the name of Michael O'Finnigan who roamed those hills of Ireland just two years later. It is there that he met an old man that met St. Patrick's description. The old man was cross-breeding shamrocks and potatoes in hopes of destroying both crops forever to cause the lands to turn brown. There was only one successful strand and it eventually grew across the country side and created the potato famine in the 1800's. This also destroyed all species of four leaf clovers.

That same old man died almost 13 years later and his body was

buried with a headstone describing a castle where "God's heart burns across tears for his son's body." The only castle matching this description in Ireland is at Blarney Castle where a cross is atop the highest perch and every March 17, the Sun (God's heart) casts a shadow from the cross to the pond (tears) on castle grounds. This is also how we get the Celtic cross.

Sometime later in 761 AD, the same year that St. Patrick was canonized, the Blarney Stone, for which the Castle is famous, was cracked open and a sacred scroll was stolen from within it. It is on this scroll that is believed to be a map laid out by St. Patrick when he was under captivity as a boy. Legend has it that he found gold and emeralds growing from the landscape around his captor's homes, but he knew he could never keep the precious stones from his masters, so he hid the stockpile of stones and vowed to one day return for them. This is why Patrick became a priest; so he could walk amongst the Irish people unnoticed. The map also had a secret key that could only be read with the use of a four-leaf clover.

What happened to this scroll is unknown, but it is rumored to have been recovered by Shamus McCallister in the 1700's in a trade with a woman disguised in a long black veil in France. Shortly after, McCallister went on a long journey across Ireland and was rumored to be muttering to himself about snakes blood and green grass root.

In a passage McCallister wrote in his diary just days before his death, there are two sentences that do not match any other. "Stain the page with a snake's blood - on higher land, you'll avoid the green flood. When sun is high and wind is calm, my gems shall present in your palm." According to the instructions, one must stand on a tall hill and spread snake's blood on the parchment. Following St. Patrick's abduction, and his forfeiture of his map to his captors, he drove all the snakes out of Ireland and destroyed all four leaf clovers to prevent anyone else from ever finding his gems.

As for a green flood, the local grass root was known to turn water green because of a natural dye. In Ireland at the time, the only beverage people had to drink was beer because the bacteria-infested water would make you sick. It is believed that along

with the snake's blood, one could look at the parchment through green beer and discover St. Patrick's hidden map to the greatest treasure that Ireland or Europe had ever seen.

McCallister's map was never found, but it was believed that a copy was made in the late fifteenth century and Columbus took it to America with him in 1492. This legendary copy was passed down in his family that stayed in America and was known as the "porous coffee mug." Unfortunately, it too was stolen from its owner by Native Americans who traveled with it to Canada to hide it under a hockey rink.

As time went on, more men died in search of the lost treasure under the same circumstances. Every man to date has had Shamrocks found stuffed in his throat and potatoes in his nose. Two of the greatest treasure hunters in the world, Nicolas Cage and Tom Hanks, went looking for the treasure two months ago and we all know what happened to them...

Do not seek the treasurer of St. Patrick. The Ottoman Empire still has loyal followers today who will protect the hidden treasure from the Irish until they can one day claim it themselves. Even people who write about the legend have been known to be killed even in mid - AAAARRRRGGGHHH!!!!



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

"Statue. The staff of St. Patrick holds another clue to the great mystery."

The deadly folding chair

Church basements' #1 killer

Benjamin M. Weilert
9 Fingered Man

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) released some startling statistics this last week in regards to the metal folding chairs found in community centers and church basements across the country. It turns out that the seating contraption is the most deadly device in America.

"I'm not sure how they had been overlooked for so long, but these chairs are the leading cause of lost digits and overall death," said CDC spokesman, Handiza Hooke. This epidemic of deadly steel seats started out in the 1970's and has been an undetected threat for almost 40 years. The CDC blames this on poor documentation of the incidents involving the chairs.

Most of the incidents that occur with these folding chairs are due to their maintenance and upkeep. With the large number of chairs in circulation, and the increased obesity in America, it stands to reason that it would only be a matter of time before one of the chairs would be bent out of shape. After said chair is bent out of shape, its folding mechanisms become a deadly trap for anyone who inadvertently sits in them.

Victims of the folding chairs say that the seats can strike without warning. "I happened to be the one who found the broken chair at the AA meeting," said Joe Nohed, "When I put my hand under the seat to pull myself forward, the misaligned metal parts sliced my hand right off. I then bent over to pick up my bleeding hand and the chair went ahead and sliced my head off."

Hooke went on to show that every stain that is found on the carpet of a church or community center is due to the blood that these chairs have spilled. Various other incidents involving these uncomfortable death traps usually happen during their set-up and tear down for the meeting of the night. "Every appendage has been lost to these chairs. From fingers and toes to whole arms and abdomens. It's pretty gruesome."

A protest group that goes by the name of "Stand Tall All Needless Deaths" has started to boycott these death-vices and has proposed initiatives to make these metal folding chairs obsolete. The propositions include standing for the entire meeting and sitting cross-legged on the floor. Unfortunately, the first option is the leading cause of heart attacks, and the second option is the second most painful instigator of back pain.

OSHA has stepped in to review the chairs safety risk to the users of the devices. Results will be available once the 5-month late examination team returns from the basement of First Presblytheran Church.



Canadian name change official

Adam Freeland
Neighbor from the north

Canada's parliament has passed resolution HWR1488 to officially rename the country. The movement for this change was initiated by Alex Trebek, a predominant Canadian figure in American culture. His desire was initially to rename Canada 'Canadia.' This simple proposal got the ball rolling on the most important thing to happen to Canada since ice.

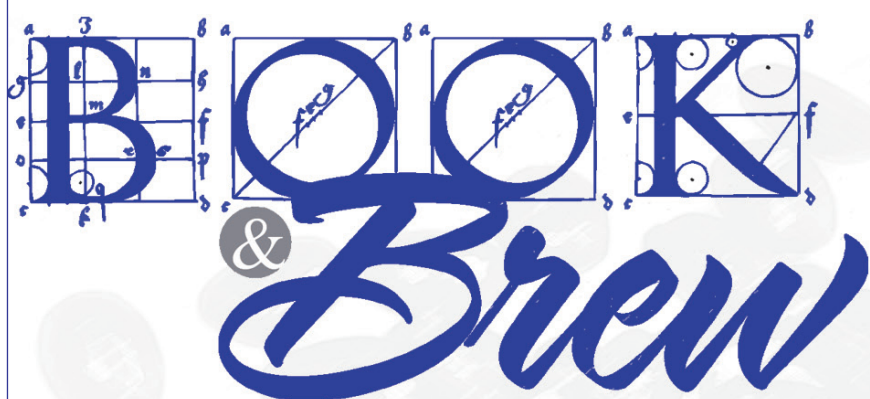
Jim Carrey, a close friend of Trebek, took the movement to the next level. By galvanizing the Canadian voter base, mainly the polar bear demographic, Carrey gathered enough signatures to put an amendment on the February Election to allow for a name change. The amendment passed under false pretenses. Most Canadian voters believed they were voting for Al Gore.

With the amendment passed, the floodgates opened. Suggestions for the new name of Canada came from every corner and from

under every iceberg. 'Canadia' seemed to be a shoe in. 'The Real Iceland' and 'Oil Shalea' rounded up the front runners. As Canadians anticipated the vote, news came of a back-door deal that would supersede a vote.

Alaskan voters had brokered a deal to rename Canada 'Middle America.' In exchange for this, Alaska will be renamed 'Northern America' and Middle America receive Sarah Palin on a lease with option to buy program, lasting the next 14 years.

Middle America still has two foreign borders, one with America and now one with Northern America. Northern American voters believed that these name changes would help their students succeed in their national Geography Standardized Tests. With the anticipated score increases, Northern America is set to receive 4.9 trillion in 'good for you' stimulus bonuses. Getting rid of Palin was just the icing on the ice cream cake.



at Arthur Lakes
Library



...Get Your Coffee On

- Hormone-free Milk
- Do you work on Campus on Saturdays? You can now get your AFPP (afternoon face plant prevention) at the Book & Brew from noon - 4:00PM
- Also open Sundays 1:00-9:00PM
- PROUDLY SERVING
ALLEGRO COFFEE & TEA
- ORGANIC ESPRESSO DRINKS

CSM
Club and IM Sports

► Gotta play 'em all!

IM Deadlines

Wed. March 18th, NCAA Pick 'Em

Thurs. March 19th, Kickball and Softball

Thurs. April 9th, Tennis
Doubles

Thurs. April 9th, Golf Best Ball: 2 per Team

-\$30 per person, includes green fees, cart rental,
range token, and drink coupon

Club Sports

Wed. March 25th, Hockey

Pepsi Center @4pm

Tickets: \$22

Good for the Avalanche game at 7pm same day

WWW.CSMRECSPORTS.COM